

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

12 October 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin:

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been reported in Aransas and Nueces counties. Patchy very low impacts expected on east facing shores through Saturday, due to winds from the east.

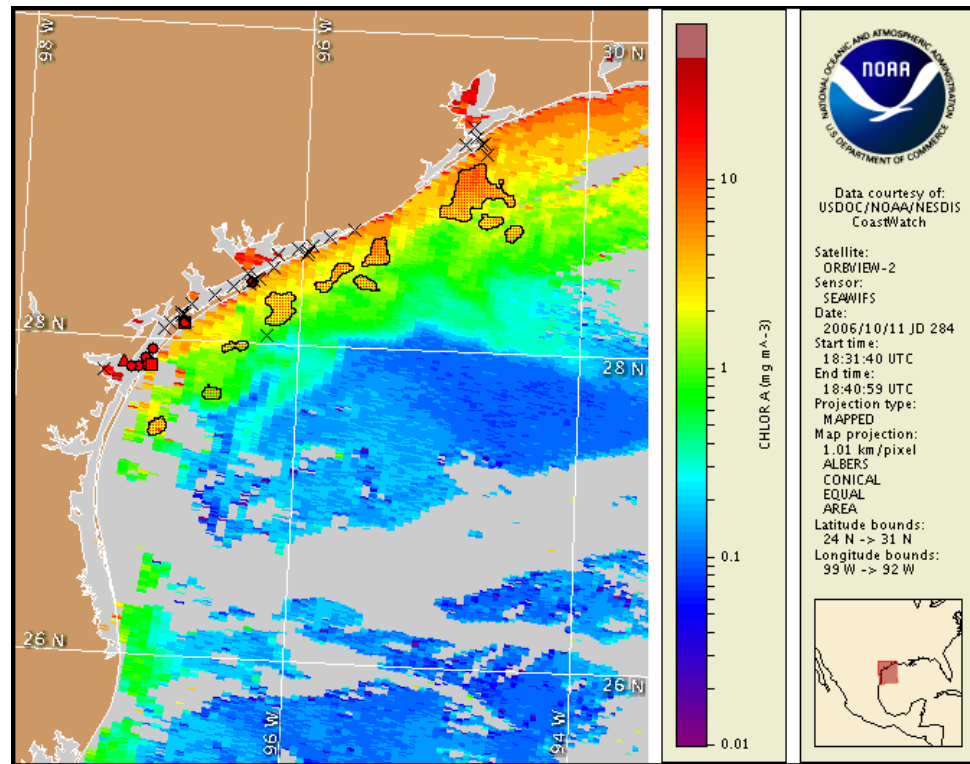
Analysis

The red tide previously reported this week is no longer apparent in the area from Port Aransas to Mustang Island State Park (Nueces county). Red tide has been reported in Aransas Bay on the west side of San Jose Island in low concentrations (33/ml). Low concentrations have also been reported in the intracoastal waterway from Redfish Bay. Onshore impacts at these locations are expected to be low. In Corpus Christi Bay along the Gulf Beach from Packery Channel to Bob Hall Pier, and off of Cole Park, additional reports of red tide have been reported. Current winds are from the South, and projected winds from the east over the weekend will favor onshore and westward transport, and very low impacts on east-facing shores. Patchy anomalies are visible in the imagery offshore, sampling is recommended as offshore winds increase over the weekend. Although no blooms have been reported near Galveston, sampling is recommended (between 29d 12m N, 94d 40m W and 29d 5m N, 94d 58m W in areas where chlorophyll is highest ~ 6.04 mg/m³) as there appears to be a large anomaly offshore.

Shapiro, Tomlinson

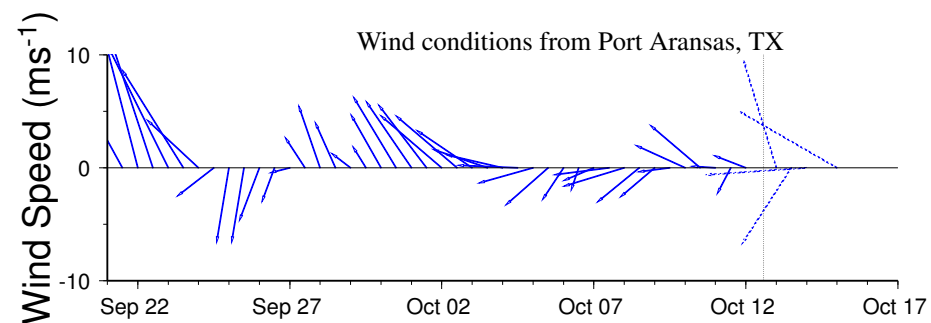
Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.



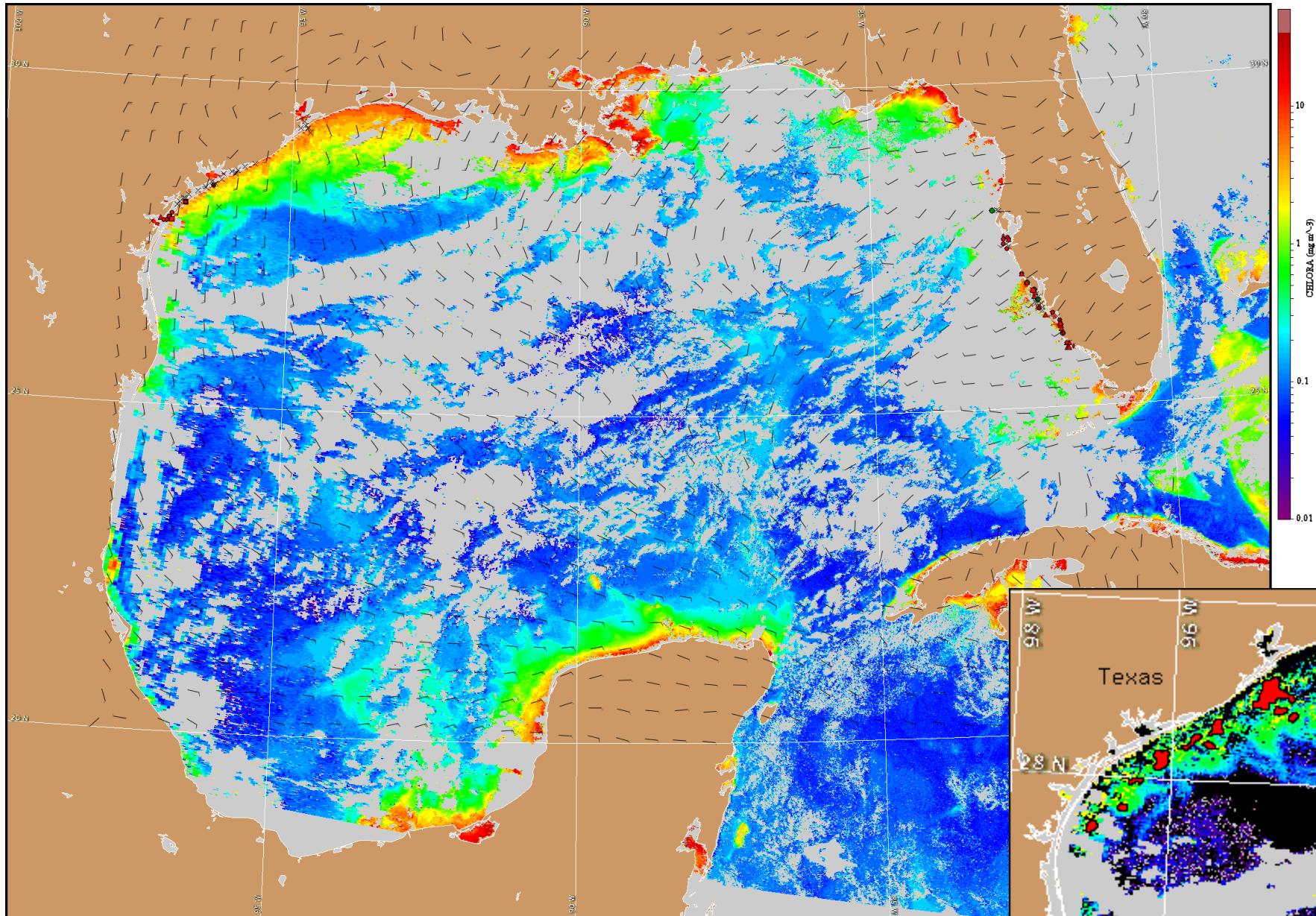
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 2-11 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site:

<http://research.myfwc.com>

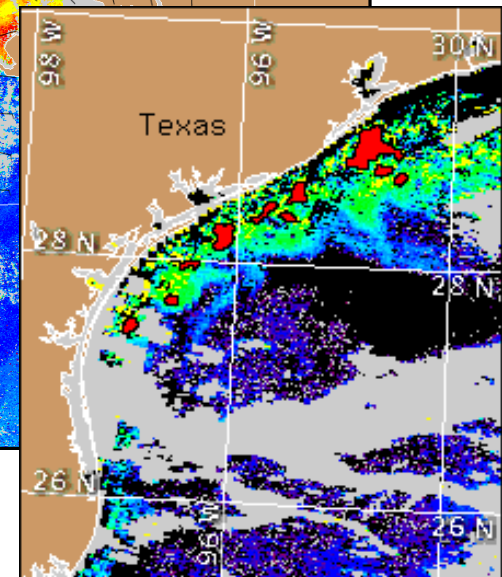


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Winds are currently blowing from the south at 10 knots, and expected to become stronger, 15 to 20 knots. Winds will be from the northeast at 15 to 20 knots on Friday. Winds will continue from the east at 15 to 20 knots over the weekend.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 13, 2006 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from October 2-11 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site: <http://research.myfwc.com>



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).